



Socket No.: 0010-1057-0

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: :  
YOSHIHIRO USUDA ET AL : EXAMINER: FRONDA, C. L.  
SERIAL NO. : 09/441,055 :  
FILED: NOVEMBER 16, 1999 : GROUP ART UNIT: 1652  
FOR: METHOD FOR PRODUCING L-METHIONINE BY FERMENTATION

AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. BOX 1450  
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

SIR:

In response to the Official Action dated February 9, 2004, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following amendment and remarks.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2 of this response.

**Support for the Amendment** appears on page 8 of this response.

**Remarks** begin on page 9 of this response.